

Roundabouts make a big difference



An intersection with inner beauty

The center island of a roundabout provides an opportunity that traditional intersections do not—making the intersection look nice. Flowers, trees, or even simple green space can be placed in the center of a roundabout, making the intersection aesthetically pleasing.



One of the main reasons that roundabouts are so safe is that they have fewer vehicle conflict points compared to traditional intersections. Drivers enter roundabouts at much slower speeds, and only need to look in one direction to see oncoming traffic. In addition, roundabouts reduce vehicle emissions and fuel consumption because vehicles are not idling at signalized intersections.

Roundabouts have proven time and time again to be a safer alternative to traditional intersections. The 44 roundabouts to be included in the US 41 Project will make travel on the highway safer than ever. Studies from the Insurance Institute of Highway Safety show the many benefits that roundabouts will soon be bringing to Wisconsin.

fewer fatal crashes at the intersection	90%
reduction in crashes with injuries	76%
fewer crashes involving pedestrians	30-40%
reduction in crashes involving bicycles	10%

Better for Wisconsin drivers

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation is incorporating roundabouts within the US 41 Project. These intersections will help us provide you with the safest, most efficient travel possible.

Please drive safely

Questions, comments or concerns?
Contact us whichever way is most convenient.



www.US41wisconsin.gov



(920)492-4120
US 41 Project Hotline



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Roundabouts

Everything you need to know



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Navigating a roundabout

When you are approaching a roundabout, the first thing you need to do is choose the proper lane and slow down. Be sure to observe all signs and yield to pedestrians in the crosswalk. Next, look left and enter the roundabout when there is a safe gap in traffic. Stay in your lane and obey all posted speed limits. When you have reached the exit you desire, use your right turn signal and exit the roundabout.

■ Choosing the proper lane

Left turns and U-turns

Use the left lane, or other lanes marked as left turn lanes.

Going straight

Observe the signs and arrows to choose the lane for your desired exit.

Right turns

Use the right lane, or other lanes marked as right turn lanes.

■ Bicycles

If you are comfortable riding your bicycle in traffic, you can ride through a roundabout using the same general rules as a motorist. Just be sure to use your hand signals so motorists can prepare for your actions. If you feel uncomfortable in traffic, leave the roadway and either walk or ride on the shared-use path or crosswalks. Be sure to follow the same rules as pedestrians.

■ Pedestrians

As you approach a roundabout on foot, you'll notice a crosswalk island dividing traffic into two directions. Look left at the crosswalk and walk to the island when there is a break in traffic. Next, look right when you get to the island because traffic will be coming from the other direction. When you feel it is safe, cross to the other side.

■ Large vehicles

If you see a large vehicle approaching or within a roundabout, give them plenty of space. Avoid driving next to or passing large trucks when approaching or traveling inside a roundabout. You'll also notice an outer section of the center island called the truck apron. Truck aprons are for the rear wheels of a large truck to use when turning—not for SUVs, cars or pickup trucks.

■ Emergency vehicles

As always, you should yield to emergency vehicles. If you have not entered the roundabout, pull over and allow the emergency vehicle to pass. If you are already inside the roundabout avoid stopping and continue to your exit, then pull over to let the emergency vehicle pass.

